

Message Text

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ACTION EPA-04

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UNCLAS MOSCOW 4222

DEPT PASS EPA FOR STROTHER

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, UR, US
SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON REGULATION OF CHLOROFLUOROCARBON
EMISSIONS, APRIL 26-28

REF: STATE 63729,

1. EMBASSY SCIENCE COUNSELOR MARCH 25 MET WITH DR. YU. S.SEDUNOV
OF HYDROMET TO DELIVER HARPER/SEDUNOV LETTER (PER REFTEL) CONCERNING
UPCOMING MEETING ON REGULATION OF CHLOROFLUOROCARBON EMISSIONS.
A LENGTHY DISCUSSION ENSUED IN WHICH SEDUNOV EVINCE STRONG
INTEREST IN PURSUING QUESTION OF CHLOROFLUOROCARBON EMISSIONS ON
AN INTERNATIONAL BASIS. HE DOES HAVE RESERVATIONS, HOWEVER,
AS TO NECESSITY FOR THE UPCOMING MEETING SPONSORED BY EPA
OUTSIDE UNEP STRUCTURE FOR A LIMITED NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
AND APPEARS WARY OF SUGGESTION THAT AN AD HOC GROUP BE ORGANIZED
TO ESTABLISH AN INFORMATION NETWORK FOR DATA EXCHANGE.
HE REQUESTED FURTHER AMPLIFICATION OF EPA PROPOSALS BEFORE
DECISION ON SOVIET PARTICIPATION CAN BE MADE.

2. SEDUNOV HAD INTERPRETED U.S. SUGGESTION THAT PARTICIPATION BE
LIMITED TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO MEAN THAT SOVIET REPRESENTATION
SHOULD BE AT POLITICAL DECISION-MAKING LEVEL RATHER THAN AT
SCIENTIFIC SUBSTANTIVE LEVEL. SCIENCE COUNSELOR EXPLAINED THAT
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EPA SIMPLY THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO LIMIT THE
MEETING TO THOSE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS MOST DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN
THE QUESTION OF CHLOROFLUOROCARBON REGULATION, RATHER THAN
INCLUDING THE PRIVATE SECTOR OR SCIENTISTS INVOLVED ONLY IN RESEARCH
ASPECTS. HE STRESSED THE INFORMAL NATURE OF THE MEETING AND
ADVISED THAT POLITICAL DECISION-MAKING REPRESENTATION, UNLESS
DIRECTLY RELATED TO CHLOROFLUOROCARBON REGULATION, HAD NOT

BEEN ENVISIONED.

3. SEDUNOV ASKED WHY SUCH DISCUSSION COULD NOT TAKE PLACE WITHIN UNEP, WITH ALL NATIONS PARTICIPATING, RATHER THAN AS A PRIVATE MEETING FOR A SELECTED FEW. SCIENCE COUNSELOR RESPONDED THAT THE MEETING WAS NOT INTENDED TO CIRCUMVENT UNEP OR TO REPLACE DISCUSSION WHICH HAVE ALREADY TAKEN PLACE. THE UNEP MEETING HAD REVEALED WIDE DIFFERENCE IN PERCEPTION AMONG THE MAJOR USERS AND PRODUCERS, AND EPA WISHED TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO CLARIFY THE PERCEPTIONS AND EXTEND THE EXCHANGES AMONG THOSE MORE DIRECTLY INVOLVED.

4. SEDUNOV EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN THE U.S. AND CANADIAN REGULATION PLANS WHICH WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING. HE NOTED THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY USEFUL TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY THESE PLANS BEFORE THE MEETING TO PERMIT A MORE THOROUGH AND CONSIDERED DISCUSSION OF THEM IN WASHINGTON. SCIENCE COUNSELOR REPLIED THAT MORE INFORMATION ON U.S. REGULATIONS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE IN MAY APRIL, AS STATED IN THE HARPER LETTER.

5. THE PROSPECT OF ESTABLISHING AN AD HOC GROUP AND AND INFORMATION-
589, 35294(:)3-4)6 &-;3 3\$7,9; 049?)3. . HE REQUESTED
AN ADVANCE TEXT OF THE SPECIFIC U.S. PROPOSALS TO STUDY BEFORE
THE MEETING. SCIENCE COUNSELOR REITERATED THAT THE MEETING
WILL BE AN INFORMAL ONE NOT INTENDED TO REACH FORMAL AGREEMENTS
OR TO ESTABLISH FORMAL ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE. HE STRESSED
THAT ANY INFORMAL AGREEMENTS ON FURTHER MEETINGS OR INFORMATION
EXCHANGE WOULD BE REACHED AS A RESULT OF THE DISCUSSIONS
WHICH TAKE PLACE AND THAT THE U.S. DID NOT HAVE SPECIFIC
FORMAL PROPOSALS TO PLACE BEFORE THE PARTICIPANTS.
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6. SEDUNOV REQUESTED THAT HIS REACTIONS BE COMMUNICATED TO EPA WITH A REQUEST FOR FURTHER SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON WHAT THE U.S. PLANS TO ACCOMPLISH IN THE APRIL 26-28 MEETING.

7. COMMENT: WHILE DISCUSSION WITH SCIENCE COUNSELOR DID PROVIDE CLARIFICATION ON THE POINTS SEDUNOV RAISED, HE CLEARLY STILL FEELS NEED FOR AMPLIFICATION FROM EPA, BEYOND HARPER/ SEDUNOV LETTER, ON ABOVE-MENTIONED POINTS. ANY INFORMATION EPA COULD PROVIDE IN ADVANCE OF MEETING CONCERNING CANADIAN AND U.S. REGULATION PLANS WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 29-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Unique ID: 00
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